

Hawaii Navy News



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Serving the "Best Homeport in the Navy"

April 7, 2000

IN BRIEF

Navy-Marine Corps Relief fund drive extended to May 5

In order to allow all commands further opportunity to increase this year's contributions through the use of active fundraisers and allotments, the annual Navy-Marine Corps Relief fund drive is extended until May 5.

It is through our active support that the NMCRS is able to provide services to our sailors and their families.

Commands are encouraged to let their imaginations go and have fun hosting creative fund raising events over the next month in a concerted effort to increase fund drive totals.

Command efforts will make a tremendous difference to all Sailors, ensuring help from the NMCRS is "at the end of the rainbow when needed."

'Pearl Harbor' filming update

Big Ship Productions (a Disney company) continues to film the movie "Pearl Harbor," in and around Pearl Harbor, which may disrupt some daily work routines.

Disney sets are considered closed and are not open to the public.

Additionally, residents in and around Pearl Harbor may experience occasional loud explosions and flight operations involving vintage WWII era aircraft.

The following is a general schedule of locations where filming will occur through April 13. Daily updates will be made Monday - Friday on the Navy Channel (TV channel 2 in housing and on base.

SATURDAY, 8 APRIL

- USS Missouri

SUNDAY, 9 APRIL

- USS Missouri

MONDAY, 10 APRIL

- Inactive Fleet - Middle Loch

TUESDAY, 11 APRIL

- Inactive Fleet - Middle Loch

WEDNESDAY, 12 APRIL

- Inactive Fleet - Middle Loch

THURSDAY, 13 APRIL

- Inactive Fleet - Middle Loch

INSIDE



Magician Curtis Kam treats military keiki to a fun evening at the Hale Koa Hotel ...B-1

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Wreath laying marks start of 'Pearl Harbor' filming

By J01 Gerard Sekerak

EDITOR

A wreath laying ceremony held at the USS Arizona Memorial Sunday signaled the start of the production for Touchstone Pictures/Jerry Bruckheimer Films' epic drama, "Pearl Harbor."

Adm. Thomas Fargo, Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet echoed the Navy's enthusiasm in supporting the project by proclaiming what an excellent opportunity it is to tell the story of Pearl Harbor to a new generation of Americans and people around the world. "Through this epic story we will ensure that the courage and sacrifice of these valiant Americans lives on the minds of generations to come. Thanks for honoring our shipmates. Good luck and God bless you all," said Fargo.

Attending the ceremony were Richard Cook, Chairman of the Walt Disney Motion Pictures Group, Producer Jerry Bruckheimer, Director Michael Bay, Hawaii Governor Ben Cayetano and senior Navy officials.

Additionally, five survivors of the 1941 attack, as well as cast members Ben Affleck, Josh Hartnett, Kate Beckinsale and Cuba Gooding, Jr., were present at the ceremony.

"The wreath ceremony is very touching for those of us who are here today," said Pearl Harbor survivor Ralph Lindemeyer. "On behalf of the Pearl Harbor survivors' Association, we thank all of whom are taking part in remembering the 2,335 young men who died in this harbor 58 years ago."

Inclement weather, which threatened participants with rain and drizzle both before and after the ceremony, broke just long enough to allow the 45-minute event to go on unscathed.

The wreath ceremony which took place on the main deck of the USS Arizona Memorial, featured a fly-over of four P-40 Warhawk aircraft in the "missing man" formation as a salute to the "heroes" of Pearl Harbor.

The four planes were part of dozens of vintage aircraft slated for use in the filming of the



PH2 Chad McNeeley photo

Vintage P-40 Warhawks fly a "missing man" formation over the USS Arizona Memorial during a wreath laying ceremony for the men who died during the attack on Dec. 7, 1941. The ceremony was held by the Walt Disney Motion Picture Group which will film the movie, 'Pearl Harbor', and was attended by the film's producer, director, stars, military and state officials, and Dec. 7th survivors.

movie. The ceremony concluded as participants took flowers from three wreaths and tossed them into the water through the memorial's well area before moving into

the shrine room to observe a quiet moment together.

At a press conference on the Visitor Center's waterfront lawn immediately following the ceremony, local and na-

tional media had their chance to ask questions to the ceremony participants.

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'Pearl Harbor' helps Hollywood continue long relationship with armed services

By J02 Greg Cleghorne

NAVY REGION HAWAII

FROM Elvis to John Wayne, Hollywood has done its part to support the nation's military efforts through the powerful medium of silver screen movies.

Even Warner Brothers has lent their cartoon legends Bugs Bunny and friends to raise public awareness and desire to support American and Allied fighting forces during World War II.

The 1944 movie "So Proudly We Hail" tells the story of how Army nurses, stationed in 'Paradise', were thrust into the horrors of the attack on Oahu and how they lived through treating Soldiers and Pearl Harbor attack victims.

The film most remembered for its depiction of the attack on Pearl Harbor was the Academy Award winning (best visual effects), 20th Century Fox film "Tora, Tora, Tora," directed jointly - for a more accurate depiction - by American director, Richard Fleisher and Japanese director, Akira Kurosawa.

In 1965, "In Harm's Way" employed the talents of Hollywood icons, John Wayne, Kirk Douglas and

▼ See PEARL HARBOR A-8

Pacific Fleet

ONE
on
ONE

Adm. Dennis C. Blair, USN Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command



This is one in a series of interviews with the leadership of the U.S. Pacific Fleet and the Navy. Four Hawaii-area military journalists, one from each branch of service, conducted the interview as Adm. Dennis C. Blair finished his first year as Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command.

Adm. Blair is a 1968 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. As the senior U.S. military commander in the Pacific and Indian Ocean areas, he leads the largest of the unified commands and directs Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force operations across more than 100 million square miles.

By J02 Sean K. Gano

PACIFIC FLEET PUBLIC AFFAIRS

What do you think of your first year on the job?

To me it's been a very encouraging year. Most of the areas in which we've been putting emphasis here in

the Pacific Command seem to be on the upswing. We had four priorities that I came in with — readiness, regional engagement, revolution in military affairs, and resources. I believe we've made progress in all four areas.

If you look at readiness, the first component is our people.

A year ago we were promised a pay raise, and for over three months now we've been receiving it. That's good, and (I think) the commitment of senior leadership, both in the executive branch and in the Congress, is still there addressing the things we need to fix and the quality of life of our service people and their families.

This coming year is going to be the year of TRICARE.

Now TRICARE is not quite such a factor here in Hawaii or in Alaska and the West Coast because it started here. There are still some issues such as portability, or being able to take your TRICARE benefit from one area to another. I think they are going to fix these issues in the coming year.

In the area of regional affairs, I

couldn't visit China a year ago, but I think we're going to begin to get back on track with China.

Concerning North Korea...we had an incident last summer in the Yellow Sea where there was a fishing fleet dispute. We're talking to the North Koreans now more than before, and they have put a moratorium on shooting their missiles while we're talking.

Also, last year, we went through the East Timor experience. I just came from a briefing from our commander there. It was amazing what our people did as a joint team - Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, men, women, officers, enlisted, civilians. (They) really put on a great effort in support of the Australians and helped return peace and security to that country.

What about goals for the future?

In the future we are going to try to maintain our deterrent capability, which is the core what we do. Everybody needs to know that if they mess with the United States, they are going to lose. We are also shaping this

theater in a more focused and positive way.

We are trying to build regional approaches rather than just bilateral approaches. We're building security communities, which are groups of nations who are willing to solve problems peacefully, and we are continuing to work on the resources end of things.

In particular, I think we need to keep working on our bases, camps and stations.

Some of our retention and recruitment statistics are not quite where we want them to be despite the advances we've had earlier. We need to continue to make our armed force as attractive as it ought to be.

I think these are some of the challenges of the future, but we've got a good start.

U.S. interests are well-protected in this part of the world, and I think we've got the people to surmount any challenges.

With forces deployed in East

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